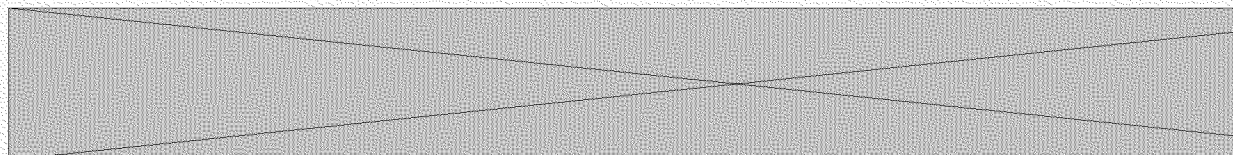


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Secretary-General Ban to deliver Sochi address

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon will be the first UN head to address an International Olympic Committee general assembly when he delivers a keynote address in Sochi, Russia, before the opening of the Winter Olympics. The IOC general assembly meeting runs from Feb. 5 to 7. [The Washington Post \(tiered subscription model\)](#)/[The Associated Press](#) (2/3)

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"A key question is whether or not the Thai military may get involved on the side of the protesters." UN Dispatch (2/3)






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











United Nations

Ban urges Ukrainian government to ease tensions

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon met this past weekend with the Ukrainian foreign minister and opposition leaders, asking "both sides to show patience and more




flexibility, seeking a way out of the crisis and ensure the peaceful future for the country."
U.S. and EU officials expressed concern over alleged abductions and violence while preparing aid packages for the country. The New York Times (tiered subscription model) (2/2), Voice of Russia (2/1)

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WHO study: Governments can act against obesity

Tighter regulation of fast and processed foods and incentives for healthier fresh foods could help combat obesity, according to a World Health Organization study. The study compared annual fast food purchases with body mass index readings in 25 developed countries from 1999 to 2008. Al Jazeera (2/2), Reuters (2/2)


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Women & Girls

Women defense ministers in Europe mark new era

With the addition of Germany's Ursula von der Leyen, Europe now has four nations with female defense ministers. "I don't think the military officers that we work with see us any differently than if we were men," said Netherlands' Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert. The Guardian (London) (2/2)

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Climate and Energy

Indonesia volcano eruption brings fatalities

The death toll from an eruption of an active volcano on Indonesia's Sumatra Island reached 15 as rescue workers struggled with continuing clouds of hot ash. At least 30,000 people have been evacuated since Mount Sinabung began erupting in November. CNN (2/3), The New York Times (tiered subscription model) (2/2)

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Peacekeeping and Security

Syria continuing to bomb Aleppo, say observers

Syrian government forces, using helicopters, are continuing to drop "barrel bombs" on the city of Aleppo, killing many civilians, including women and children, according to the British-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights. Activists claim more than 700 Syrians have been killed by bombs in the past six weeks. The New York Times (tiered subscription model) (2/2), Al Jazeera (2/2), Al Jazeera (2/1)

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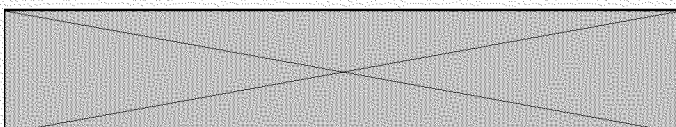
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Al Jazeera (2/2)

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